

60130-986
00MRA0576REMARKS

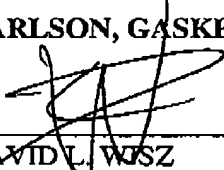
Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the detailed remarks and allowance of claims 16 and 17 which are allowable claims 6 and 13 in independent form. Claims 1-21 are pending.

Claims 1-5, 7-12, 13 and 14-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Belik* (4,469,369) in view of *Ruppert* (6,276,474). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections as there is absolutely no teaching, suggestion, or motivation to modify *Belik* in view of *Ruppert* as argued in Applicant's previous response.

The Examiner suggests that *Belik* "clearly discloses a bus having a frame 23 being disposed under a projection 9 and floor 8. Therefore, floor 8 and projection 9 is considered to correspond to vehicle underside of the present invention, and the frame 23 of *Belik* correspond to subframe of the present invention." Floor 8 and projection 9 are a portion of *the vehicle underside – not a subframe*. The equivalent to floor 8 and projection 9 in the cited references are the vehicle underside of floor 18 and the second profile segment 26 in the present invention. *Neither reference, individually or in combination, discloses or suggests a subframe in any way.*

Applicant respectfully submits that this case is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a teleconference will facilitate moving this case forward to being issued, Applicant's representative can be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully Submitted,
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